



MEDIA ADVISORY

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Contact:
Mary Markos, 913-634-1517
Mary.markos@usace.army.mil

Media event scheduled following America's Great Outdoors Initiative Youth Listening Session

St. Louis, MO— Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Jo-Ellen Darcy, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar, and representatives from the Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Council on Environmental Quality will be available to speak with the media Aug. 20 at 11:45 a.m. at Heron Pond, at the Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary in West Alton, Mo., following the America's Great Outdoors Initiative "Rediscover the River" workshop and youth listening session.

This listening session is one of a series being held across the country where administration representatives hear the public's ideas, concerns, and issues regarding a 21st century conservation and recreation agenda and reconnecting with the outdoors. America's Great Outdoors Initiative events that day include the youth workshop and listening session, a meeting with community leaders, and a public listening session. The media is invited to record any of these events.

- 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. **"Rediscover the River" Workshop and Youth Listening Session**
The youth session will provide participants with hands-on activities focusing on recreation and water resources. It will also provide young people with the opportunity to join the conversation and share their ideas. The youth event will be held at the National Great Rivers Museum, #2 Lock and Dam Way, Alton, Ill.
- 11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. **America's Great Outdoors Initiative Media Event**
The media event will be held at Heron Pond at the Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary, in West Alton, Mo. A question and answer session will follow brief remarks by administration officials.
- 1:10 p.m.-1:55 p.m. **Community Leaders Meeting**
Administration officials will meet with local community leaders to hear their ideas regarding conservation and recreation at Lewis and Clark Community College, 5800 Godfrey Rd, Godfrey, Ill.
- 2 p.m.-4 p.m. **Public Listening Session**
The public will have the opportunity to discuss their ideas regarding conservation and recreation with administration officials at Lewis and Clark Community College, 5800 Godfrey Rd, Godfrey, Ill.

President Obama inaugurated the America's Great Outdoors Initiative at the White House Conference in April. The conference brought together leaders from communities across the country that are working to protect their outdoor spaces and focused on developing and supporting innovative ideas for improving conservation and recreation at the local level. More information on the Initiative can be found on-line at: www.doi.gov/americasgreatoutdoors/

Registration is advised for the media event and all America's Great Outdoors Initiative sessions. Please register via email to Mary.Markos@usace.army.mil, or call 636-899-0052 or 913-634-1517.

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